

RESIDENTIAL SOLAR INITIATIVE
FOR
CERTIFIED GREEN HOMES

REBATE CRITERIA



PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The South Carolina Energy Office announces the Residential Solar Initiative (RSI) for certified green single family homes to document and demonstrate the technical, economic, and practical advantages of residential solar domestic hot water systems in South Carolina. Rebate criteria were updated October 2007 to 1) include green building certifications in addition to EarthCraft House, and 2) expand definition of eligible applicants.

The purposes of the RSI for certified green residences are to:

1. Promote the installation of solar domestic hot water systems in single family residences certified through ENERGY STAR, LEED for Homes, EarthCraft, or National Association of Home Builders by offering a \$1,000 cash award rebate to the home owner, builder, or re-modeler for each home;
2. Promote residential solar technology, economics, energy efficiencies, and other advantages to South Carolina homeowners;
3. Document and promote South Carolina builders and contractors who have demonstrated success and technical expertise for installation, operation, and maintenance of solar domestic hot water systems in South Carolina; and
4. Promote the construction of certified green residences as a model for the Residential Solar Initiative.

ELIGIBILITY AND FUNDING

1. Home owners, builders, and re-modelers are eligible if they own, build, or re-model a certified green residence and if they add a solar domestic water heating system certified by the Solar Rating Certification Council (<http://www.solar-rating.org/>) or the Florida Solar Energy Center (<http://www.fsec.ucf.edu/>).
2. A maximum of \$20,000 in total rebates has been allocated for this initiative. A rebate of \$1,000 will be available to the applicant for each approved installation, and awarded at project completion. Up to 20 rebates will be awarded on a first-come, first-serve basis.
3. Only new solar domestic hot water systems installations (completed after application approval) will qualify.
4. Solar domestic hot water systems designed for pools and spas are not eligible for the rebate.
5. Rebate is contingent upon proof of green home certification and will not be awarded until all paperwork is completed and submitted to the South Carolina Energy Office.
6. Eligibility is confirmed with an approved Rebate Application from the South Carolina Energy Office.

7. The solar domestic hot water system must be installed within 180 days of application approval, or it will be removed from the approval list and kept on a waiting list to be re-evaluated once the project is completed.

REBATE APPLICATION

1. The application is available on the South Carolina Energy Office website.
2. To be considered for funding, the applicant must submit the Rebate Application with appropriate documentation of the proposed solar installation.
3. The solar domestic hot water system installation must be completed within 180 days of application approval.
4. Applications approved by the South Carolina Energy Office, will be signed and returned to the applicant as a confirmation of eligibility.
5. Applications will be accepted through June 30, 2008.

REBATE AWARD PROCEDURES

1. After the application approval the applicant must within 180 days:
 - a. Provide the solar domestic hot water system invoice and other evidence of installation;
 - b. Provide copy of official green building certification; and
 - c. Provide access for on-site viewing to an SCEO representative once the solar domestic hot water system is installed and operational.
2. The rebate will be issued to the approved applicant within 30 days of receipt of all documentation and installation verification by SCEO.

APPLICANT QUESTIONS

Applications, questions, and other communications relative to this program should be directed to the RSI Program Manager, Richard Horton at (803) 737-8034. Fax applications to (803) 737-9846, email applications to rhorton@energy.sc.gov, or mail applications to SC Energy Office, ATTN: Richard Horton, 1201 Main Street, Suite 430, Columbia, SC 29201.